GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:258
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
ADOPTION OF SMALL FAMILY NORMS
Rawat Shri Kamla Prasad;Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no uniform policy in the country regarding encouraging people to adopt small family norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to enact legislation for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor including the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the population growth in the country; and

(f) the State-wise amount of assistance provided by the Government during the last three years for encouraging people to adopt small family norms?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 258 FOR 10TH AUGUST, 2005

The Union Government has adopted a comprehensive and holistic National Population Policy, 2000, with a view to achieving population stabilization by 2045 at a level consistent with the socio-economic development of the country. The Governments has advised States/UTs. to formulate their State Population Policy with State specific strategies maintaining the general spirit of the National Population Policy, 2000. As envisaged in the National Population Policy, the Family Welfare Programme in India is voluntary in nature, which enables a couple to adopt the family planning methods, best suited to them, according to their choice, without any compulsion. They are free to decide the size of their family.

Certain States like Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa and Delhi have adopted two-child norm. The steps taken by such States include provisions for disqualifying persons having more than two living children from becoming elected members of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipalities; limiting the maternity leave to Government employees up to two children; extending Â« percent lower rate of interest on house-building advance; granting special pay equal to one increment to Government employees for undergoing sterilisation with not more than two living children; restricting entry into Government service and subsequent promotions/facility for availing loans to persons having not more than two living children.

The National Population Policy, 2000, does not support two-child norm. The Union Government has, therefore, requested all the States/UTs. to review the provisions of two-child norm contained in their State Population Policy and to bring them in consonance with the spirit of the National Population Policy. Prior to adoption of the National Population Policy, the Constitution (Seventy Ninth) Amendment Bill, 1992, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in December 1992, which, inter alia, provided for disqualifying persons having more than two children from becoming a member of Parliament or State Legislature. The Bill has been pending since then for want of political consensus.

The Government has taken various steps to achieve population stabilization in the country. Apart from adoption and implementation of the National Population Policy, the National Commission on Population was constituted in May, 2000, under the Chairmanship of Hon`ble Prime Minister to promote inter-sectoral coordination in planning and implementation across government agencies of the Central and State Governments, to involve the civil society and the private sector and to explore the possibilities of international cooperation in support of the goals set out in the National Population Policy, 2000. The National Commission on Population has been reconstituted in April, 2005. Its last meeting was held on 23.7.2005.

Empowered Action Group was set up in 2001 under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare to give focused attention to the demographically weaker States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal to address the unmet need for supplies, services, health care providers and health infrastructure.

Janasankhya Sthirata Kosh has been set up as an autonomous body to provide a window for canalizing funds through various sources including contributions form Union Budget and voluntary sources, to specifically aid projects for population stabilisation.

The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has been launched by the Prime Minister throughout the country, with special emphasis on 1 8 States i.e. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Meghalaya, Tripura, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, U.P. Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. The NRHM encompasses the RCH Programme, which provides integrated and strengthened Family Planning Services including immunization and measures to promote institutional deliveries.

A statement giving details of assistance released to States/UTs. under national Family Welfare Programme during last three years is Annexed.

ANNEXURE

ASSISTANCE RELEASED TO STATES UNDER THE FAMILY WELFARE PROGRAMMES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS . (Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19821.17	24187.52	30059.33
2.	Arunachal pradesh	785.62	545.42	848.22
3.	Assam	14358.75	11073.99	7895.22
4.	Bihar	22449.70	24618.92	29177.91
5.	Chhatisgarh	7818.05	8944.55	9242.70
6.	Goa	184.46	337.24	489.43
7.	Gujarat	14605.69	16852.43	20067.81
8.	Haryana	5682.61	8326.63	7903.82
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3667.73	4009.02	4278.19
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	3293.74	3156.28	4162.85
11.	Jharkhand	8290.23	9555.72	9827.08
12.	Karnataka	19118.87	14407.64	19907.22
13.	Kerala	8387.82	8621.27	10644.81
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14107.10	20237.48	23256.97
15.	Maharashtra	24531.36	24971.36	28116.16
16.	Manipur	1907.68	1493.21	725.13
17.	Meghalaya	1296.31	797.65	931.76
18.	Mizoram	1678.70	1067.97	1288.26
19.	Nagaland	1195.09	924.83	1078.41
20.	Orissa	10085.03	10915.38	12049.59
21.	Punjab	2857.36	5698.35	6958.79
22.	Rajasthan	18980.09	25618.03	25910.23
23.	Sikkim	660.50	673.26	533.42
24.	Tamil Nadu	17478.95	16255.46	19407.40
25.	Tripura	1689.63	968.35	1202.93
26.	Uttar Pradesh	50626.42	61266.25	68219.15
27.	Uttaranchal	3378.77	4141.05	3880.81
28.	West Bengal	16164.84	19508.90	22225.01
	Total - All States	295102.27	329174.16	370228.61
	UTs with Legislature			
1.	Delhi*	1884.04	4246.22	3339.87
2.	Pondicherry	495.02	839.92	655.70
	UTs without Legislature			
1.	A&N Islands	438.24	381.40	406.61
2.	Chandigarh	401.30	225.13	255.77
3.	D&N Haveli	101.27	125.03	109.00
4.	Daman & Diu	167.56	115.37	133.79
5.	Lakshdweep	73.71	84.68	67.68
	Total (UTs)	3561.14	6017.75	4968.42
	Grand Total	298663.41	335191.91	375197.03

#Figures are provisional ....